

REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 9-15, 17-24, 26 and 27 stand rejected and Claims 8, 16 and 25 are objected to within the present Office Action. Applicants thank the Examiner for noting that Claims 8, 16 and 25 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants respectfully request that Claims 8, 16 and 25 be canceled without prejudice. Therefore, Claims 1-7, 9-15, 17-24, 26 and 27 remain pending in the patent application.

Specification

Applicants respectfully note that amendments have been made herein to the specification of the patent application in order to correct informalities that existed therein. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully note that the amendment to the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 3, substantially includes the subject matter of objected to dependent Claim 8 (before it was canceled). As such, Applicants believe that the amendments herein to the patent application do not add new matter to it.

Applicants respectfully point out that "level hierarchy" was originally underlined in the specification paragraph beginning on page 22, line 12, and is not being added herein to this paragraph. Moreover, "R-Play" and "L-Play" were originally underlined in the specification paragraph beginning on page 33, line 8, and are not being added herein to this paragraph. Additionally, "R-Execute", "L-Execute" and "Type" were originally underlined in the specification paragraph beginning on page 33, line 29, and ending on page 34, line 3, and are not being added herein to this paragraph. Furthermore, "binding of duties", "separation of duties" and "restricted task execution" were originally underlined in the specification paragraph beginning on page 39, line 4, and are not being added herein to this paragraph. Also, "secretary" and "filing" were originally underlined in the specification paragraph beginning on page 40, line 27, and ending on page 41, line 2, and are not being added herein to this paragraph.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejections

Claims 1-7, 9-15, 17-24, 26 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Du et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,308,163).

Applicants have herein amended independent Claim 1 to substantially include the subject matter of objected to dependent Claim 8. As such, Applicants have herein canceled Claim 8 without prejudice. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that amended independent Claim 1, along with its dependent Claims 2-7 and 9, overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), and are thus in condition for allowance.

Furthermore, Applicants have herein amended independent Claim 10 to substantially include the subject matter of objected to dependent Claim 16. As such, Applicants have herein canceled Claim 16 without prejudice. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that amended independent Claim 10, along with its dependent Claims 11-15, 17 and 18, overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), and are thus in condition for allowance.

Moreover, Applicants have herein amended independent Claim 19 to substantially include the subject matter of objected to dependent Claim 25. As such, Applicants have herein canceled Claim 25 without prejudice. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that amended independent Claim 19, along with its dependent Claims 20-24, 26 and 27, overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), and are thus in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejected claims. Based on the remarks presented above, Applicants respectfully assert that Claims 1-7, 9-15, 17-24, 26 and 27 overcome the rejections of record and, therefore, Applicants respectfully solicit allowance of these Claims.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,
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